SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 18 SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Thursday, January 2, 2014 metronews.ca | twitter.com/metrotoronto | facebook.com/metrotoronto

TORONTO metro®

Friday's Jackpot
$46 MILLION estimated
Lotto MAX

OUR HOLIDAY HEROES HEAD HOME AT LAST

MEET THE MANITOBA HYDRO WORKERS WHO GAVE UP CHRISTMAS WITH THEIR FAMILIES TO HELP BRING POWER BACK AFTER THE ICE STORM PAGES 10 & 11

Toronto MP walking free in Sri Lanka

Tamil MP says she was not placed under house arrest, as was reported, but did face 'political intimidation' over human-rights crusade PAGE 8

New Year's mirth meets joy of birth

As the clock struck 12, four babies arrived in Toronto — including one whose twin was born just minutes earlier but a whole year apart PAGE 4

Tenderloin, cheddar, some grapefruit and ... sprinkles?

See what dish one writer put together ahead of Chopped Canada's big premiere PAGE 16

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Prostitution charges have plummeted

Ninety per cent drop in Toronto. Legal fight may have kept police on defensive: Lawyer

The number of charges for prostitution-related offences in Toronto courts has dropped by 90 per cent over a five-year period, as the challenge against Canada's prostitution laws wound its way to the country's highest court.

Statistics published by the Ministry of the Attorney General shows Toronto courts received 1,088 charges related to prostitution in 2006. In 2011, they received just 110.

Last month, the Supreme Court of Canada struck down laws that made it illegal to communicate for the purpose of prostitution, run a brothel or live off the avails of prostitution.

"The government kept asserting that when the laws were invalidated, there would be some sort of chaos," said Alan Young, the lawyer who argued the case. "And my position was, we're charging so little, the community wouldn't notice much."

Young said there are several possible explanations, pointing to 2010 and 2012 rulings that kept the laws in flux.

"It puts the police in a very awkward position.... It seems somewhat anomalous to proceed with a prosecution for an offence that's in limbo."

Chanelle Gallant, spokesperson for Maggie's: The Toronto Sex Workers Action Project, said a drop in charges isn't reflected in what she hears from sex workers on the street, who she says still face profiling and harassment from police. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

VICTORY UNDER THE OPEN SKY

Leafs goaltender Jonathan Bernier plays the puck behind the net in the first period against the Detroit Red Wings during the 2014 Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic on Wednesday at Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor. The Leafs claimed a 3-2 victory in front of a frozen crowd of 105,491. Story, page 21. JAMIE SABAU/GETTY IMAGES

JOIN US FOR OUR GRAND OPENING TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH FROM 5-8PM

GoodLife FITNESS. The good life. Made easy.

TORONTO RICHMOND BATHURST CO-ED CLUB
555 Richmond St. West
416-214-9544

Join Today!
8 WEEKS FREE
No Money Down No Enrolment*
(on a 1 year membership)

*Based on the purchase of a 1 year membership. Bi-weekly payments will commence based on your start date. Applicable tax applies. No additional fees are required above the regular membership fee. Membership fees vary based on club and the membership option chosen. Offer valid at Toronto Richmond Bathurst Co-ed Club only. Please check goodlifefitness.com or with club for hours of operation. Other conditions apply, see club for details.

porter
flying refined

Just like the holidays, our sale is coming to an end. Book by tomorrow to save.

Save on flights this winter, through May 21, 2014.

Our fabulous sale means that you can enjoy huge savings. But you'd better ho, ho, hop to it by Friday. These prices won't last and neither will the bad holiday puns. So, merry savings to all and to all a good flight.

Bonus – Porter lands right in downtown Toronto.

ALL-IN PRICES

Flights from Toronto. Book by January 3, 2014. Travel by May 21, 2014. Up to 14-day advance purchase may be required. One-way fares include all taxes, surcharges and mandatory fees. Additional charges may apply for checked baggage and other optional services.*
Fares starting from:

HALIFAX	MONCTON	MONT TREMBLANT	MONTRÉAL	OTTAWA	QUÉBEC CITY	SAULT STE. MARIE	ST. JOHN'S	SUDBURY
4 x daily	Daily	4 x weekly	16 x daily	16 x daily	Daily	4 x daily	Daily	4 x daily
$180	$135	$135	$118	$110	$118	$107	$231	$100
THUNDER BAY	**TIMMINS**	**WINDSOR**	**BOSTON**	**CHICAGO**	**MYRTLE BEACH**	**NEW YORK**	**VERMONT**	**WASHINGTON**
6 x daily	4 x daily	4 x daily	6 x daily	5 x daily	Service begins Feb. 13	13 x daily		Dulles 2 x daily
$141	$118	$100	$152	$152	$217	$134	$159	$142

Book online or contact your travel agent.

flyporter.com

porter Escapes

Vacation packages from Toronto. Vacation travel dates vary by package. Limited availability. Package prices are per person, based on double occupancy and include round-trip airfare, all taxes, surcharges and mandatory fees. For full package listings and availability, please visit our website.**

★★★★ **NEW YORK**
$585
Le Parker Meridien
Standard Room
Dept. February 7, 8
Nights: 2
Fly to and from Newark.

★★★★ **BOSTON**
$723
Royal Sonesta Hotel
City View Room
Dept. January 28, 31, February 1
Nights: 2

★★★★ **MONTRÉAL**
$407
Le Centre Sheraton
Standard Room
Dept. February 1, 2, 3
Nights: 2

★★★+ **VERMONT**
$558
Trapp Family Lodge
Run of House
Dept. February 3, 24
Nights: 3
Fly to and from Burlington, Vermont.

Book packages online, contact your travel agent or call Porter Escapes 1-855-372-1100. TTY – Dial "711". porterescapes.com

* Book by 11:59 pm Eastern Time January 3, 2014. Travel by May 21, 2014. Up to 14-day advance purchase may be required. Advertised fares may not be available February 14, 15 and 17, 2014; April 17 through April 21, 2014; and May 16, 17 and 19, 2014. Advertised fares are subject to availability and may not be available through the entire travel period. Full fare breakdown available for all itineraries on flyporter.com. Fares quoted are one-way outbound in Firm Class. Inbound fares may differ. New bookings only. Fares include all applicable government-imposed taxes and mandatory fees, which may amount to as much as $150 one-way per passenger, depending on routing. Foreign taxes will fluctuate based on the prevailing exchange rate. Fees for optional services, such as itinerary changes, additional baggage, advance seat selection, or certain special service requests, may increase overall cost. Fares are non-refundable but itineraries may be changed for a fee of up to $200 per person per direction, plus any fare differential. Other significant conditions (including a $25 first-checked bag and $35 second-checked bag fee to and from the U.S., a $20 second-checked bag fee for flights in Canada, and charges for overweight and/or excess baggage) may change without notice and are not guaranteed until ticketed. Visit flyporter.com for more information. In case of any discrepancy between advertised fares and the fares shown on the website at the time of booking, the latter shall prevail.

** All-in prices shown are per person in Canadian dollars, based on double occupancy in noted room category. Flights are round-trip via Porter Airlines. Packages include return airfare, all taxes, surcharges and mandatory fees. Airfare discount is already included in the advertised package price. Prices will vary for alternate flight times on advertised dates. Prices are for select departure dates and are accurate and subject to availability at advertising deadline, errors and omissions excepted, and subject to change. Transfers to and from airport to hotel are not included unless specified otherwise. New bookings only. Packages are subject to availability at time of booking and are subject to change without notice. Not valid on group bookings. For full terms and conditions refer to www.porterescapes.com. Ontario registration Number 84153 4506. Porter Escapes Inc is a TICO licensed company. TICO # 50019770. Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Toronto, ON, Canada M5V 1A1.

tico.ca
Travel Industry Council of Ontario

Mayor Rob Ford holds the annual Mayor's New Year's Levee at city hall Wednesday. The levee was scheduled to end at 4 p.m., but Ford planned to stay to meet the 50 people who were still waiting in line.
KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Contrasting mayors usher in the new year

Levees. McCallion preparing to say goodbye, while Ford fights to stay on

For one mayor, it was the bittersweet beginning of her final year in office. For another, it was the cautious start of campaigning after a scandal-filled year past.

New Year's levees were held in Mississauga and Toronto on Wednesday, marking very different milestones for the cities' chief magistrates.

Hazel McCallion, who has been mayor of Mississauga for 35 years, has said this is her last term. In an energetic speech to supporters packed into council chambers, she lauded the city's progress.

"It's the 40th anniversary of this great city — just a young city, folks. We're not old at all. The mayor may be old, but the city isn't," said the feisty 92-year-old, drawing laughs from the crowd.

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, who shook hands and took photos with hundreds of supporters in the city hall rotunda, walked silently past a throng of reporters waiting for him after the event.

His chief of staff, Dan Jacobs, confirmed Ford will register as a candidate for the mayoral election at 8:30 a.m. Thursday.

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly called 2013 a "unique year" in which the city faced two crises — the scandal that surrounded Ford and led to council reducing his powers, and the massive ice storm that cut power to hundreds of thousands of homes.

Kelly refused to say whether he would support the mayor's re-election bid.

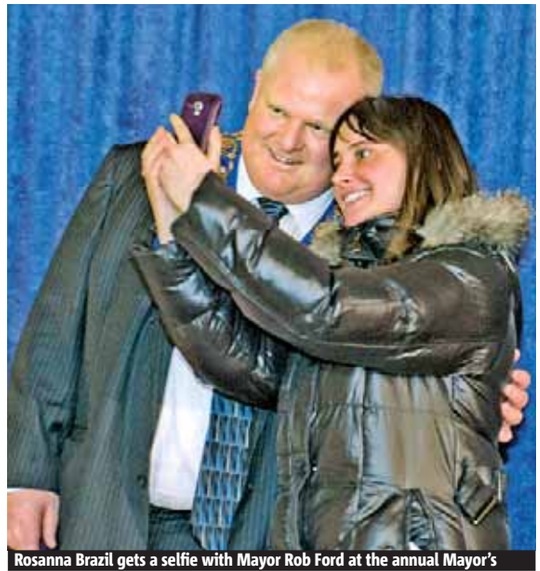
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"(The year) had elements to it that I don't think one could have scripted and therefore predicted."

Toronto Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly

Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion holds the annual Mayor's New Year's Levee at Mississauga City Hall. KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Rosanna Brazil gets a selfie with Mayor Rob Ford at the annual Mayor's New Year's Levee Wednesday at city hall. KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

On your mark: Election race begins now

Toronto residents' gruelling 299-day slog to the ballot box has officially begun.

As of Jan. 2, candidates running for mayor and council can register with the city clerk. Nominations close Sept. 12. After their declaration is approved, candidates are able to raise and spend money.

As to Toronto's mayoral election, it's unlikely many of the major contenders will jump in on Day 1.

So far, Mayor Rob Ford is the only one who has promised to register first thing Thursday morning.

Federal and provincial campaigns typically last about a month, but in Toronto, candidates could be on the trail for 10 drawn-out and expensive months.

Election day

Oct. 27

The day when Toronto's next mayor will be decided in 2014.

That's why rumoured mayoral hopefuls such as Olivia Chow, John Tory and Denzil Minnan-Wong are likely to hang back for a few months before officially declaring.

TTC chair Karen Stintz, who is so far the only major contender to confirm her candidacy, has said she will step down from her position on the transit commission to run once the 2014 budget is finalized in January or February.

Former councillor David Soknacki, a conservative, has also committed to running for mayor. An official with his campaign said Soknacki will formally enter his name in early January.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Grin and Bear it, pal, it's for a good cause

Tara Walton, left and her friend Leevie Hart, centre, participate in the Courage Polar Bear Dip for World Vision during sub-freezing temperatures in Lake Ontario in Oakville on Wednesday. The event raised $137,000 to provide fresh water for Gashora and Rugarama in Rwanda. MARK BLINCH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

BioPharma Services Inc.

Are you a healthy, non-smoking male or female 18 years of age or older?

- Free of daily medications?

If so, you may be eligible for our upcoming clinical research studies.

- We conduct weekday as well as weekend studies.
- Compensation may range from $900 to $2650 depending on the length of the study.

CALL: 416-747-5246
TOLL FREE: 1-866-747-5246
Mon-Fri: 8-8
www.biopharmaservices.ca

Special deliveries

It was a different type of countdown for four mothers across the GTA who rang in the new year to the cry of a newborn. Two babies were born at the stroke of midnight at North York General and Rouge Valley Centenary hospitals. A third was delivered by caesarean section at Sunnybrook Hospital and another was born 38 seconds into 2014 at Credit Valley Hospital. Her twin sister was born minutes before — in 2013.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jenna

Jenna Grace Cheaib opened her eyes for the first time in front of television cameras on Wednesday. Weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces, and wearing a pink knit cap, the tiny bundle rested quietly in the arms of her mother, Stefany Wilkins, at North York General.

"Everybody was looking at the clock" during the delivery, said Wilkins, 24, whose original due date was Dec. 31.

"Is she going to do it? Is she going to come by midnight or before, after?"

The Bowmanville couple met while working at the OLG Slots at Ajax Downs. While they don't normally gamble themselves, they were taking bets on whether Jenna would be born in 2013 or 2014, said fiancé Mohammed Cheaib, 31.

"We were doing over/unders on midnight. Most of the calls were for past midnight, but she came right on the dot."

She takes after her father, Cheaib said.

"I don't think I've been late for anything in my life," he said.

James

In Scarborough, a weary Pradeepa John Kennady cradled her 12-hour-old son, James, as father John Kennady Fernando looked on.

"At 12 o'clock, me, the nurses, everybody was happy for the New Year-born baby," Fernando, 36, said.

James arrived nearly two weeks early, and Fernando is hoping the midnight birth will prove auspicious. At six pounds and six ounces, James dozed in a Team Canada T-shirt, and Fernando said his son might just grow up to be a cricket star, or soccer prodigy.

"After coming to Canada, I like hockey, too," said Fernando, who emigrated from Sri Lanka in 2004.

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CONTRIBUTED

Arsis

Across town, Arsis Zally came into the world six seconds after midnight, but his official birth record will show 12 a.m. exactly — Sunnybrook Hospital's birthing unit only records hours and minutes.

"It's not an exact science," said hospital spokeswoman Nadia Radovini.

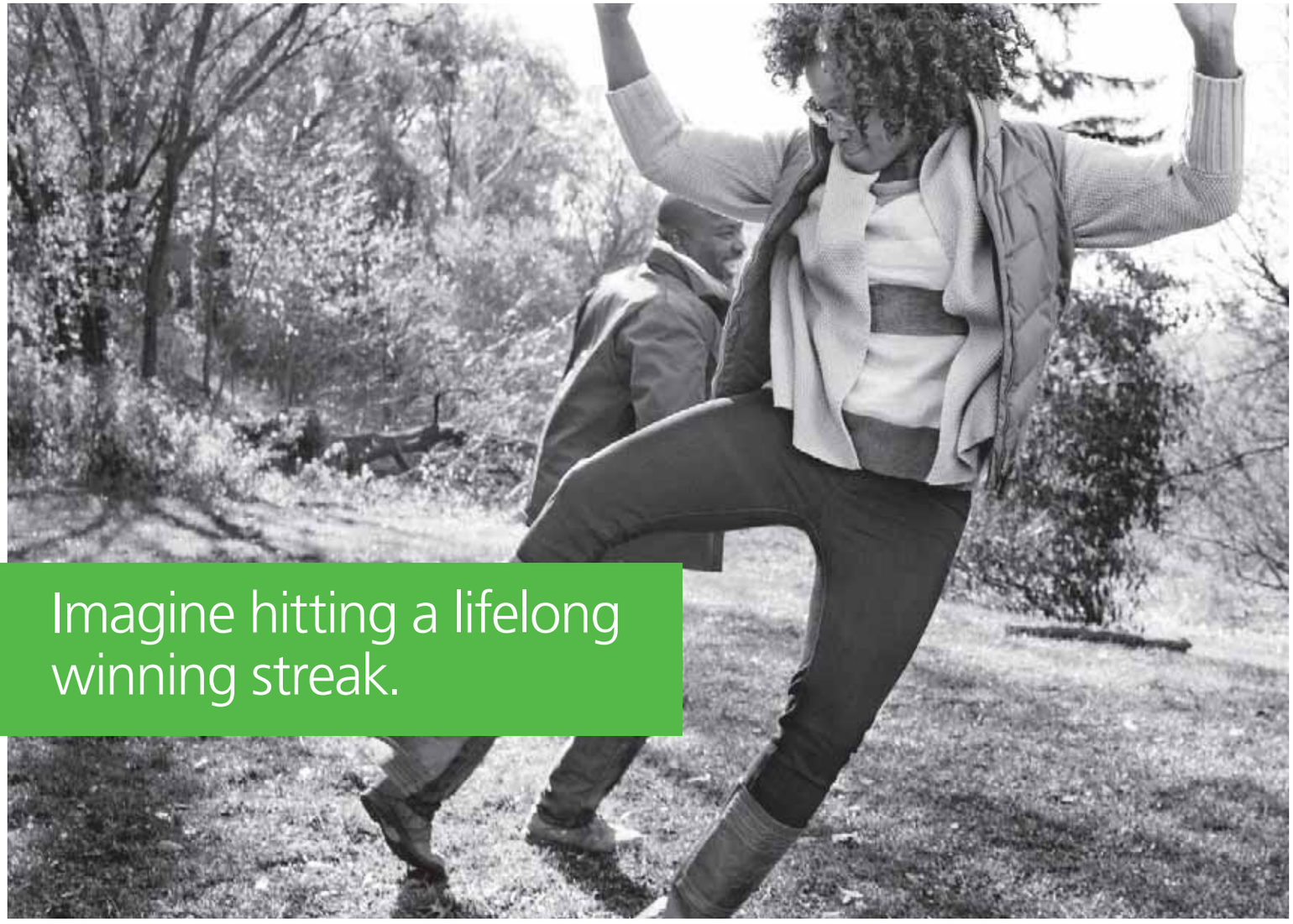
New mom Alvira Mamvar had a C-section scheduled for Dec. 31 and it was an hour before the countdown by the time the obstetrician arrived, Radovini said.

Gabriela and Sophia

In Mississauga, Lindsay Salgueiro was wondering if her fraternal twin daughters would be able to attend school together. Gabriela was born with eight minutes remaining in 2013 and Sophia was born 38 seconds into 2014.

CONTRIBUTED

"We'll worry when it comes to that time, but we were told an exception could be made for them," said Salgueiro, 28.



Imagine hitting a lifelong winning streak.

Saving is winning.

There's something really exciting about seeing your money grow. From saving up for something special to contributing to your RSPs, TD has automated savings options that make paying yourself first an easy, affordable and effective way to save. Make saving a winning lifelong strategy today.

Visit a branch or
tdsavingiswinning.com

®The TD logo and other trade-marks are the property of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Lottery News

Winter 2013/2014

OVER 50% SOLD

WAKE UP A WINNER!

TOP PRIZE $2 MILLION

IT'S LIKE $100,000 A YEAR FOR 20 YEARS!

10 GRAND PRIZES

9 CASH, CAR & TRIP GRAND PRIZES!

PLUS MILLIONS IN CARS, ELECTRONICS & MORE!

NEW 50/50 DRAW

JACKPOT CAN GROW TO $2,000,000

THE WINNER TAKES HALF!

1 for $10 | 5 for $25 | 15 for $50

50/50 Draw Tickets must be ordered in conjunction with the Heart&Stroke Lottery Ticket.

Best Odds 1 in 3 EVER

TICKETS $100 EACH or BEST DEAL 3 FOR $250

CALL: 416-661-1511 Ext. 700
1-888-551-1111 Ext. 700
ONLINE: www.heartandstroke.ca/lottery

MAKE HEALTH LAST

HEART & STROKE FOUNDATION

Every Ticket Helps the Heart and Stroke Foundation Make Health Last.

BROCHURES AVAILABLE AT:

DAG DOWNTOWN AUTOMOTIVE GROUP
www.dagcars.ca • 416 603 9156

CRAIG TRAVEL

‡*○††●♦▲~Please refer to brochure or visit www.heartandstroke.ca/lottery for full rules and regulations. Only 250,000 tickets will be sold. 50/50 Draw tickets are unlimited and must be purchased in conjunction with a Heart&Stroke Lottery ticket. Prize values stated are retail value as of dates contracts were negotiated with suppliers and are independently verified by prize suppliers, as per AGCO rules. Copyright © 2013 Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. ™ Heart&Stroke Lottery and Heart & Stroke Foundation logos are trademarks of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario is now known as the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. All proceeds from this lottery will fund Heart and Stroke Foundation research and health promotion to benefit residents of Ontario. Copyright © 2013 Bank of Canada: bank note images used and altered with permission. Lottery Licence #: 5697. 50/50 Lottery Licence #: 5698.

A Toronto Hydro line worker works to restore power to a house in a Scarborough neighbourhood on Dec. 27. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Day 12: Power restored fitfully

Ice storm crisis. Some residents frustrated by partial power as cold makes restoring service to remaining dark spots tougher

At last, late in the afternoon on Wednesday — Day 12 of the ice storm crisis and the dawn of 2014 — the home of Peter and Mary Lou Rankine began to warm up.

The Rankines, as well as other homeowners on a quiet street between Bayview Avenue and Leslie Street, were among the 100 or so customers that Toronto Hydro was attempting to reconnect on New Year's Day.

Frosty temperatures Wednesday were making work unpleasant for hydro workers. The city issued an extreme cold weather alert, as temperatures were predicted to dip below –20 C overnight.

"The cold weather's just hard on our crews," said Toronto Hydro spokeswoman Tanya Bruckmueller.

High winds created additional work in recent days, bringing down more tree branches and causing new outages around the city.

Hydro One workers are still helping Toronto Hydro reconnect customers, while the crews who came from Manitoba to lend a hand have now returned home.

The number of new calls reporting storm-related outages has declined in recent days, but is expected to increase again as people return from vacations and find their electricity is out, Bruckmueller said. She added Toronto Hydro doesn't have exact numbers on partial power outages caused by the storm, but she said the number is low — likely in the hundreds.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"I can't say it's been miserable, because it hasn't. It's been frustrating."

Toronto Hydro customer Andre Rosenbaum on living with partial power since Dec. 22

WHO goal

Tobacco tax could save lives: Study

Aggressive taxation is the key to achieving a World Health Organization goal of reducing the global prevalence of smoking by one-third, new research led by a Toronto scientist shows.

A study headed by St. Michael's Hospital's Centre for Global Health Research, published Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine, found that tripling tobacco taxes around the world could reduce the number of smokers by 433.3 million people and prevent 200 million premature deaths from smoking-related diseases.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'Spray of bullets.' Man in serious condition after shooting, car crash

A New Year's Day shooting outside a bar and ensuing car crash left one man in serious condition and injured at least six other people.

An altercation broke out at the Hickory House restaurant on McNicoll Avenue near Victoria Park Avenue at about 4:30 a.m. Wednesday, and gunfire erupted, police said. Amid a "spray of bullets," a man in his 20s was shot in the chest, and a nearby car was "shot up," said Staff Sgt. Jeff Taylor.

The shooting victim and four others fled in a car, but shortly after caused a crash involving two other vehicles near Lawrence Avenue East and Brimley Road before the car hit a telephone pole. Two occupants of one of the vehicles struck were transported to hospital with minor injuries and released. The four friends of the victim were all taken to hospital with injuries, including a broken leg, a broken collarbone, head injuries and hand injuries. The shooting victim is expected to survive.

The cause of the crash has yet to be determined, but Taylor said alcohol is suspected to be a factor and the driver may have run a red light.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FEEL THE DIFFERENCE SPEED MAKES

ROGERS LTE – UP TO **2X FASTER** THAN THE OTHER GUYS*

CANADA'S FASTEST LTE NETWORK

CALL 1 888 ROGERS1
CLICK rogers.com/LTE
VISIT Your local Rogers store today
*BASED ON NATIONAL AVERAGE DOWNLOAD SPEEDS

LIVE LIKE NEVER BEFORE™

ROGERS™

*Based on tests comparing download speeds on average across Canada against other national wireless service providers within all Rogers LTE coverage areas. LTE device, LTE SIM card required. Actual experienced speeds may vary based on device, topography and environmental conditions, network congestion and other factors. Visit Rogers.com/LTE for coverage. ©2013 Rogers Communications.

Sears

DISCOUNTS AT THESE TORONTO AREA STORES ONLY:

TORONTO
Eaton Centre
MISSISSAUGA
Square One Mall

NORTH YORK
Yorkdale Mall
ETOBICOKE
Sherway Gardens

STORE CLOSING

60% OFF ALL FURNITURE
Available at Sherway Gardens & Eaton Centre ONLY

40% OFF ALL SMALL KITCHEN APPLIANCES

50% OFF ALL FOOTWEAR
Available at ALL FOUR STORES

50% OFF
Sherway Gardens & Eaton Centre ONLY

ALL INFANTS', KIDS', MENS' & LADIES' FASHION CLOTHING AND OUTERWEAR

50% TO 60% OFF
Square One & Yorkdale ONLY

50% OFF
Sherway Gardens & Eaton Centre ONLY

ALL LUGGAGE

60% OFF
Square One & Yorkdale ONLY

50% OFF
At ALL FOUR STORES

ALL COOKWARE

PLUS TAKE AN extra 10% off at Square One & Yorkdale ONLY

40% OFF
Sherway Gardens & Eaton Centre ONLY

ALL BED & BATH FASHIONS

40% TO 50% OFF
Square One & Yorkdale ONLY

EVERYTHING ON SALE!
EXCLUDES COSMETICS, FRAGRANCES AND SPECIALTY SERVICES.

TAKE AN EXTRA 10% OFF

WHEN YOU USE YOUR SEARS FINANCIAL™ CREDIT CARD ON PURCHASES OF $50 OR MORE BEFORE TAXES*
Offer valid until Thursday, January 9, 2014. Excludes cosmetics, fragrances, specialty services, major appliances & mattresses

*On approved credit on your Sears Card, Sears Financial™ MasterCard® or Sears Financial™ Voyage® MasterCard®. Sears Canada Inc. Sears® and Voyage™ are registered trademarks of Sears, licensed for use in Canada. MasterCard® and the MasterCard Brand Mark are registered trademarks & *PayPass* is a trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated. Sears Financial Credit Cards are also known as Sears Card, Sears® MasterCard®, and Sears® Voyage™ MasterCard® and are issued by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

All sales final. Open regular store hours. Discount amounts subject to change. We accept all major credit cards. We accept Sears gift cards. All items available while quantities last. These stores excluded from all Sears advertised offers.

NDP MP Rathika Sitsabaiesan rises during Question Period in the House of Commons in October 2012. Sitsabaiesan claims she faced "political intimidation" during a visit to her native Sri Lanka. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

NDP MP says officials in Sri Lanka threatened to arrest, deport her

Rathika Sitsabaiesan.
Local politician remains optimistic about trip to her home country

A New Democrat MP of Tamil heritage says she experienced "political intimidation" during a private visit to her native Sri Lanka, but that authorities stopped short of trying to kick her out of the country.

In a statement issued Wednesday, Rathika Sitsabaiesan said she was warned by Sri Lankan officials that she could be arrested and deported.

Canadian officials were scrambling on New Year's Eve to determine the veracity of reports that Sitsabaiesan, a Toronto-area MP, had been placed under house arrest.

Sitsabaiesan said in the statement that she had received word from the Canadian High Commission in Colombo that there was in fact no Sri Lankan arrest warrant in her name.

"My experiences since arriving in Sri Lanka are a reminder that defending principles of human rights is not easy, but I continue to believe that it is only through open dialogue and freedom of expression that people can ultimately achieve healing and reconciliation," Sitsabaiesan said in the statement.

She added that she now looks forward "to exploring and learning more about the country of my birth."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fighting for human rights

Sitsabaiesan, 32, came to Canada with her family at age five and was elected to the House of Commons in 2011 in the Toronto-area riding of Scarborough-Rouge River.

- She took on a prominent role in New Democrat efforts to urge Stephen Harper to boycott a meeting of Commonwealth leaders that was held in Sri Lanka in November.
- Harper had indicated he was giving the meeting a pass in protest of the Sri Lankan government's human-rights record.

Former Israeli PM

Sharon's health takes a bad turn

The medical condition of the comatose former Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon sharply deteriorated Wednesday, the hospital treating him said.

Sharon, 85, has been in a coma since 2006 when a devastating stroke incapacitated him at the height of his political power. His family has said that he sometimes opens his eyes and moves his fingers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coded message? Vodafone Egypt ad rouses suspicion

Prosecutors have questioned officials in one of Egypt's largest telecommunications companies over an online advertisement, which a controversial blogger has accused of delivering a coded message linked to the Muslim Brotherhood, the company said Wednesday.

The accusations made against Vodafone Egypt's ad, featuring well-known puppet Abla Fahita, come shortly after the government designated the Brotherhood a terrorist organization.

Ahmed "Spider," a self-styled youth activist, says code about an upcoming attack is included in the details of the puppet ad.

In it, Fahita and her daughter search for her deceased husband's SIM card, while talking about another character, "Mama Touta."

Spider said a mall and dog mentioned refer to the planned site of the attack, and "Mama Touta" is the Brotherhood's secret name.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palestinian ambassador to Czech Republic killed by exploding safe

Booby-trapped?
Foreign minister says no foul play suspected in apartment blast

The Palestinian ambassador to the Czech Republic died Wednesday in an explosion that occurred when he opened an old safe that had been left untouched for more than 20 years, officials said.

Ambassador Jamal al-Jamal, 56, was at home with his family at the time of the explosion, according to Palestinian Embassy spokesman Nabil El-Fahel. Al-Jamal was seriously injured and rushed to a hospital where he died, according to police spokeswoman Andrea Zoulova.

Palestinian Foreign Minister Riad Malki said no foul play was suspected, noting that the safe had been left untouched for more than 20 years.

It also appeared that the door of the safe had been booby-trapped, according to Zoulova. It was unclear how al-Jamal tried to open it or what type of safe it was.

The safe was recently moved from the old embassy building, but it had come from a building that used to house the Palestinian Liberation Organization's offices in the 1980s, Malki said.

"The ambassador decided to open it. After he opened it, apparently something happened inside (the safe) and went off," Malki told The Associated Press.

It was not immediately clear how Malki knew the safe had been untouched for more than 20 years or why and when the safe would have been booby-trapped.

During the 1980s — before the fall of the Soviet Union — the PLO had close ties with the Eastern Bloc countries. In recent years, relations have been tense and the Czech government was seen as taking Israel's side in the Mideast conflict, said Nabil Shaath, a foreign affairs veteran and official in Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah movement.

"The safe was sitting … in … the old embassy.... No one had touched it for 20 to 25 years," Malki said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Untouched for more than 20 years

"He opened it and asked his wife to bring a paper and a pen to write down the contents of the safe. She left him to bring (the) pen and paper. During that time, she heard ... an explosion." Palestinian Foreign Minister Riad Malki

Firemen lay on the ground near the residence of Jamal al-Jamal, Palestinian ambassador to the Czech Republic, in Prague on Wednesday. The ambassador died in an explosion that occurred when he opened an office safe that officials say had been left untouched for more than 20 years. Inset: A recent photo of Jamal al-Jamal.

KATERINA SULOVA/CTK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; INSET: KRUMPHANZL MICHAL/CTK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

HURRY IN - OFFER ENDS JANUARY 12!
UNLIMITED
DATA+TALK+TEXT
$30/MO
was $45
Save $15/mo
Includes:
North American Long Distance, Global Text, Voicemail, Roaming Minutes
and more!
mobilicity.ca
Limited time offer and available to new activations only. Save $15/month on our $45 unlimited plan while customer's account remains active with Mobilicity and on automatic monthly payments (preauthorized credit/ debit payment). Taxes are extra. Restrictions may apply on combining offers with other offers or promotions. All unlimited features included in each plan/add-on, including unlimited talk, text and data features, must originate and be used within the Mobilicity Unlimited Zones. Premium and special numbers are excluded. Additional terms and conditions apply. Subject to change without notice. ©2014 Mobilicity. 'Mobilicity', 'Now that's smart', the Mobilicity designs and the Mobilicity logo are trademarks of Mobilicity. Other trademarks shown may be held by their respective owners. All rights reserved.
mobilicity
Now that's smart.
Mobilicity Stores
Toronto
104 Dundas St E
72 Gerrard St E
1484 Queen St W
1267 St. Clair Ave W
542 Yonge St
2032 Weston Rd
1379 Lawrence Ave W
1062 Albion Rd, Unit A
1818 Eglinton Ave W, Unit 2
588 Parliament St
Centrepoint Mall
Parkway Mall
Dufferin Mall
595 Yonge St.
222 Spadina Ave., Unit 3B
596 Queen St. W.
1366 St. Clair Ave. W.
East York
1094 Victoria Park Ave.
East York Town Centre
747 Don Mills Rd., Unit 22B
656 Victoria Park Ave, Unit 2
1887 Queen St E
1004 Pape Ave
2129 Danforth Ave
642 Danforth Ave
Mississauga
Westdale Mall
Westwood Mall
High Point Mall
2550 Hurontario St
7070 Saint Barbara Blvd, Unit 22
Mississauga Market Place
20 Dundas St. E., Unit 1
Etobicoke
Woodbine Centre
2456 Lakeshore Blvd W
30A Rexdale Blvd
25 Woodbine Downs Blvd., Unit 3
Brampton
370 Main St., Unit 25A
262 Queen St E
Shoppers World, Unit 39
Bramalea City Centre
50 Kennedy Rd. S.
Markham
Pacific Mall, Unit D56 & D21
Scarborough
Agincourt Mall, Unit 0570
5981 Steeles Ave E, Unit 106
Scarborough Town Centre, Section C
1885 Kennedy Rd
2667 Eglinton Ave E, Unit 1
4382 Kingston Rd, Unit 7B
Woodside Square Mall

What happens in Vegas

Sweet retirement o' mine: Cop quits after rocker's stunt

A Las Vegas police captain who helped a rock star pull off an elaborate wedding proposal by arranging a flight on a department helicopter has retired rather than face demotion.

The agency confirms Capt. David O'Leary faced demotion for helping arrange the Aug. 7 flight for Guns N' Roses guitarist Daren Jay Ashba and Colombian actress Nathalia Henao. O'Leary instead retired on Dec. 20.

Police officials say officer Ray Horsley, who piloted the helicopter, is being transferred out of the Air Support Detail will no longer be allowed to fly for the department.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rewind

Sask. pair have a blockbuster idea: Rent out VHS films

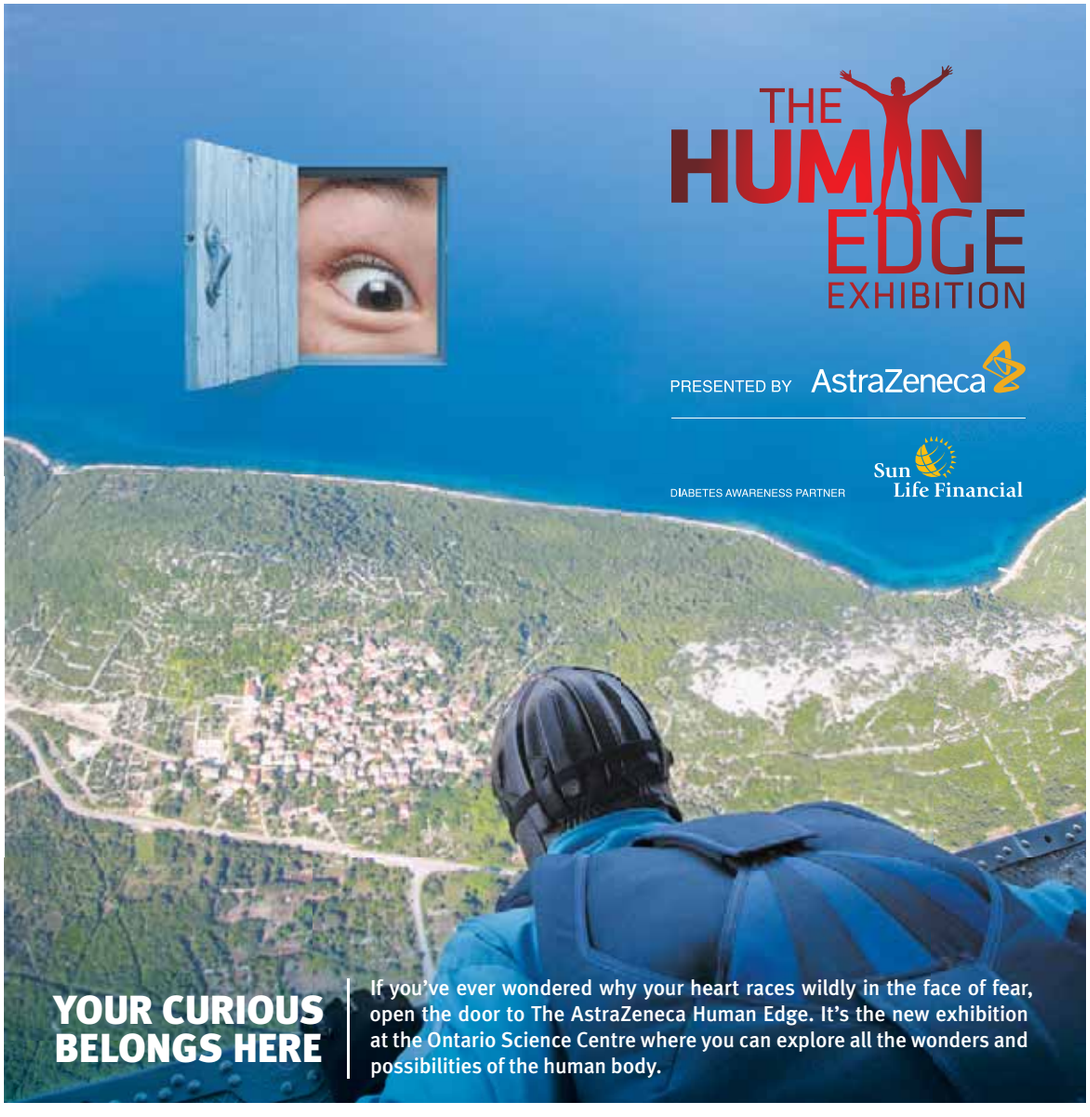
A couple of Saskatoon movie buffs are reaching into their personal collections in hopes of reviving a staple of the last century — the VHS movie rental.

Jon Vaughn and Tyler Baptist estimate they have a collection of about 2,000 VHS tapes, and say they've been lending out their movies to friends for years and thought they should just start renting them.

The pair, whose store is called Videonomicon, say they'd hate to see their favourites lost forever.

The store will also rent VCRs to play the tapes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS


THE HUMAN EDGE EXHIBITION
PRESENTED BY AstraZeneca
DIABETES AWARENESS PARTNER Sun Life Financial
YOUR CURIOUS BELONGS HERE
If you've ever wondered why your heart races wildly in the face of fear, open the door to The AstraZeneca Human Edge. It's the new exhibition at the Ontario Science Centre where you can explore all the wonders and possibilities of the human body.

OUR PREMIER PARTNER HONDA
MEDIA PARTNER TORONTO STAR thestar.com

ontariosciencecentre.ca

ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE
An agency of the Government of Ontario

Manitoba Hydro workers return to Winnipeg after giving up their Christmas time with

Giving up so others

Thank you. When the province was hit with a freak ice storm before Christmas, Manitobans were ready to lend a hand to restore power

Several dozen workers returned home to Manitoba on Tuesday after spending a week helping restore power in southern Ontario.

About 45 Manitoba Hydro employees gathered in the Perimeter Aviation hangar Tuesday evening to greet family and wish them a Merry Christmas — a few days late.

"It was tough, but we knew we were going there for a good cause, to help other people who weren't having a good Christmas," said Rowan Andrelunas, a lineman with Manitoba Hydro who told Metro he had a rushed present-opening with his wife and three kids before answering the call to help.

Holiday helpers

"It was a tough decision, but I had good support at home and my wife knew what they were going through (in Ontario)."

Trevor Froese, a Manitoba Hydro worker from Steinbach, Man., who spent Christmas away from his wife and two-year-old daughter.

"Those people needed help. You could see the devastation they had — you know, they have kids too, and they need heat in their houses."

Jared Anderson, operator with Manitoba Hydro, who left his wife and three children to help after the ice storm.

their families to help restore power in Ontario. SHANE GIBSON/METRO IN WINNIPEG

a holiday have one

"Maybe we'll have another little Christmas now that I'm back and celebrate it again."

Andrelunas said he and the other Manitoba Hydro employees worked 14-hour days while they were away.

"It's nice to be back home," he said just minutes after touching down in Winnipeg.

Southern Ontario experienced a freak ice storm just before Christmas, leaving more than 300,000 without power. People were literally skating in the streets in cities like Kingston.

It took more than a week to fully restore everyone due to the slippery conditions, countless downed trees and cold weather.

Toronto Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly said the final bill for restoring power to its citizens will likely reach $10 million, and cleanup will take two months.

SHANE GIBSON AND ELISHA DACEY/METRO IN WINNIPEG WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"There's people without power and we're going there to help. You do what you can."

Gord Funk, Manitoba Hydro worker, who left his wife at Christmas to help restore power in Ontario.

"The residents in Toronto were really glad to see us ... everyone was very happy that we came and gave up our Christmas to help them out."

Rowan Andrelunas, a lineman with Manitoba Hydro, and father of three from Winnipeg.

Experts warn of online image theft

When a photo of the late Rehtaeh Parsons was used for a dating website's Facebook ad last year, the misappropriation of her image shocked those who saw it, but it should have also been seen as a warning, say privacy experts.

Having a photo stolen and re-posted elsewhere online could just as easily happen to any of the millions of Canadians who regularly post images to the web without a second thought.

"Many of us are sharing images without considering how others may use them or how we may lose control," says Marian Merritt, the Internet safety advocate for security software maker Norton.

It's possible the images of many Canadians were swept up in 2012 as part of project hosted at Lovely-Faces.com.

The website was designed to look like an online dating service and included fake profiles based on data taken from one million Facebook users.

The partners behind the project, Paolo Cirio and Alessandro Ludovico, say it was easily put together because of a process called data scraping. They wrote a simple program that allowed them to collect Facebook data that was publicly available to anyone and everyone. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rehtaeh Parsons is shown in a photo from a Facebook tribute page.

FACEBOOK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Room

DESIGNER CLEARANCE

Beginning Friday, January 3, 2014,
TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 30% OFF
select fall/winter collections, accessories and shoes
already REDUCED BY UP TO 70%.

In store only. Some exclusions apply. No adjustments on purchases made prior to Friday, January 3, 2014. For details, please call The Room at 416 861 6251.

Putin visits bomb-rocked city, says 'no justification' for attack

Fears ahead of Sochi. Russian president talks security with officials as Volgograd survivor tells him city's spirit 'can't be broken'

Russian President Vladimir Putin made a pre-dawn visit Wednesday to the city reeling from two suicide bombings this week, bringing gestures of sympathy for the victims and questions for the officials he has ordered to beef up security.

The bombings at the main railway station of Volgograd and on a city trolleybus killed 34 people and wounded scores, 65 of whom are hospitalized.

No claim of responsibility has been made for the attacks, but they come a few months after the leader of an Islamic insurgency in Russia's south called for attacks in the run-up to February's Winter Olympics in Sochi.

"Whatever motivated the criminals' actions, there's no justification for committing crimes against civilians, especially against women and children," Putin said, opening a meeting in Volgograd with the heads of the Federal Security Service and Interior Ministry.

He said he would ask the two officials in the closed-door session for details on what measures their agencies are taking to raise security in the country.

Afterward, Putin placed a bouquet on the pile of flowers, balloons and other items that has risen at the site of the bombing, and then visited a hospital where some of the wounded are being treated.

Television footage showed Putin meeting with an unidentified female victim who told him from her bed that "Volgograd people have a strong spirit and just can't be broken."

Volgograd, a city of about one million, has been under heavy security since the Sunday and Monday attacks. Police reinforcements and paramilitary troops were sent into the city.

As part of the tightened security, police and sniffer dogs have checked some 2,700 residential buildings, along with bus stations, parking lots and other structures, the city's police department said, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

City authorities cancelled public New Year's Eve gatherings and have closed movie theatres until Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vulnerabilities exposed?

Organizers have introduced some of the most extensive identity checks and security measures ever seen at an international sporting event.

- But the bombings show how public transit in Sochi and sites away from the venues are vulnerable.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, centre, greets a victim of recent terrorist attacks as he visits a hospital in Volgograd, Russia, on Wednesday. ALEXEI NIKOLSKY/RIA-NOVOSTI/PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SERVICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Usage-based insurance in Canada?
What the Beep!

Select Canadian insurers have started offering usage-based car insurance on an optional basis. This option, while still new, may be a cost-effective solution for some drivers.

Find out what you could be paying and put more money in your pocket. Compare the car insurance market - all in one place.

Get a free quote today!

InsuranceHotline.com
We search. You save.

Joe CEO making 171 times more than Joe Schmo

Life found in 'economic stratosphere.' Report out on Canada's Top 100

Five years after the Great Recession wiped out thousands of jobs, Canada's top 100 CEOs continue to live in the "economic stratosphere," a study says.

They earned an average of $7.9 million in 2012, a report by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives found. In comparison, the average Canadian earned $46,634, the study noted. That means Canada's top CEOs earned 171 times the average industrial wage.

Despite growing outcry over the widening income gap and soaring executive pay, very little has changed since 2008, when rules on how stock options should be valued were changed, the report says.

"For me, the remarkable thing about the last two or three years is what's not happening: … any moderation despite the focus on the one per cent, despite the constant stories about excessive executive compensation.... Despite all of that pressure, these salaries have been remarkably resilient," says Hugh Mackenzie, an economist with CCPA.

Put another way: By 1:11 p.m. today, the top 100 CEOs will have earned as much as the average Canadian earns all year, according to the report, called All in a Day's Work? CEO Pay in Canada. The main driver of soaring pay is grants of shares and stock options.

There's still no clear relationship between CEO compensation and corporate performance, the report concludes.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Top 5 CEO earners (2012)

- **$49M.** E. Hunter Harrison, Canadian Pacific Railways Ltd.
- **$18.8M.** James C. Smith, Thomson Reuters Corp.
- **$18.67M.** John A. Manzoni, Talisman Energy Inc.
- **$18.66M.** Paul N. Wright, Eldorado Gold Corp.
- **$16.85M.** Donald J. Walker, Magna International Inc.

Green stands for cash, envy and high

Tyler Williams of Blanchester, Ohio, selects marijuana strains to purchase at the 3-D Denver Discrete Dispensary on Wednesday in Denver, Colo. Legalization of recreational marijuana sales in the state went into effect at 8 a.m. on what some have referred to as Green Wednesday. THEO STROOMER/GETTY IMAGES

You could WIN a pass for four to see THE NUT JOB

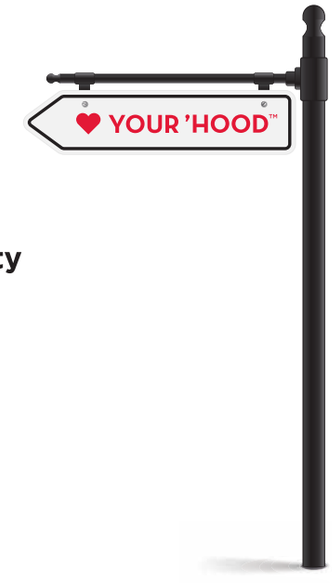
Visit clubmetro.com to enter

VISIT clubmetro.com TO ENTER

eone entertainmentone

No purchase necessary. Terms & conditions apply. For full contest details and conditions, visit clubmetro.com

Rewards. Just around the corner.



Introducing Vicinity

The points program where you earn rewards at your favourite local shops, businesses and restaurants.

vicinity

Sign up at loveyourhood.ca

vicinity™

™ Vicinity is a trademark of Rogers Communications ©2013

2014: THIS TIME FOR SURE

HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

The word 'resolution' is from the Greek meaning, "something you tell people you're going to do that makes them say, 'good for you!' and then you feel good but you don't actually do the thing you said because the pat on the back from the people you told was more than enough satisfaction."

This is why resolutions are all Greek to me. (Ha!)

I've made bachelorhood-related resolutions many times since I started writing a weekly column in 1957, so I'll be taking the idea one step farther in 2014 by following through on a few of them. It's worth a shot.

It's necessary because even I've got to admit my bachelorhood lifestyle is getting out of hand. If I died today my obituary is pretty much guaranteed to include the word 'squalid.'

It has to change, which is why I present:

John's Bachelorhood Resolutions 2014: This time for sure

— I resolve to stop passing off the coloured mould in the bathroom as "accents."
— I resolve to throw out my spoiled milk instead of just sliding in new cartons next to the old ones until my fridge door looks like The Two Per Cent Milk Carton Museum and Cafe. Alternatively, I vow to claim that the 2 per cent fridge wall is a Damien Hirst installation entitled The Twelve Sacraments and cash in.
— I will note the irony of only cleaning up when I expect the arrival of the cleaning lady.
— I resolve to make my spice rack more relevant than the Spice Girls.
— I will learn that girlish screams are not enough to lift tough stains, that changing my angle slightly in the mirror is not the same as weight loss, and that mixing two different flavours of Campbell's Soup is not a "recipe."
— I vow to use my vacuum cleaner at least as often as I open my Drawer o' Random Cords. (I do that often, though I'm never sure why.)
— I will use only toilet paper as toilet paper. I don't get to hum the MacGyver theme because I found an alternative use for the coffee filters.
— I resolve to value my sunroom as a cherished part of my apartment instead of the place I throw recycling, DVDs without cases, books without shelf space, garbage bags containing things I'm not certain I remember, and deceased organisms.
— If I choose to procrastinate on all of these resolutions, I need a better excuse than, "My favourite Internet is on."

And those are my resolutions.

In 2014, won't you drop by my apartment to see how well I'm doing?

Please note that the Public Health Agency recommends a tetanus booster for anyone visiting my apartment and requires proof of immunization against Japanese encephalitis for some reason. See you soon!

ZOOM

Probably more fun than whatever you did:

Snapshots of New Year's celebrations around the world:

Indonesia
Girls in traditional costumes gather during a parade for the last sundown of the year on Bali island. **FIRDIA LISNAWATI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Germany
O Gunners of the historical Grenadier Corps 1810 greet the new year with 12 cannon salutes in Villingen-Schwenningen, southwestern Germany. This New Year's tradition dates back to 1633 remembering an overcome siege during the Thirty Year's War. **PATRICK SEEGER/DPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

USA
Dick the Dog is pushed in a carriage during the Key West Dachshund Walk. About 200 canines participated in the annual procession. **ANDY NEWMAN/FLORIDA KEYS NEWS BUREAU/THE ASSOCIATES PRESS**

Ecuador
A mask in the likeness of President Rafael Correa hangs with other masks in Quito, Ecuador. The masks are created to place on effigies that are burned at midnight. **ANA MARIA BUITON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Clickbait

LUKE SIMCOE
Metro Online

Although the video game market is still dominated by major studios, smaller, independent developers are finding new ways to reach consumers. Increasingly, this means packaging their games together in a pay-what-you-can bundle. Here are a few sites that will help you get your hands on some new games for cheap, and maybe even help out a charity or two along the way.

humblebundle.com:
The king of the bundle scene, Humble Bundle has been going strong for over three years. They typically bring in over $1 million in sales for their packages, with the money being split between the organization, the game developers and charities like the Red Cross and the Electronic Frontier Foundation. Their games are cross-platform, and they've recently branched out to include mobile titles and even ebooks and music.

bundlestars.com:
Based in the United Kingdom, this site offers bundles catering to different video game genres, from sports to role-playing games.

indieroyale.com:
With a true focus on independent games, these bundles are guaranteed to include at least a few titles you've never heard of.

Twitter

A woman finds what she describes as a "very lethargic" snake in a curbside couch months after she initially picked it up. What's the weirdest thing you ever picked up with a roadside freebie?

@thewrongshoes: a rat had babies inside a sofabed we never opened. sat on them & squished.them. found out when they started to rot

@SUNAllisonSalz: Saw a computer. Took it home. Realized why it was free. Put it back.

@EminaKosjenka Friends got couch that kept hemorrhaging money on the way home! They plan on loading it w/change when theyr done w/ it.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll. Best answers published right here.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: torontoletters@metronews.ca

metro
President and Publisher Bill McDonald • **Editor-in-Chief** Charlotte Empey • **National Deputy Editor** Fernando Carneiro • **National Deputy Editor, Digital** Quin Parker • **Managing Editor, Toronto** Tarin Elbert • **Managing Editor, News & Business** Amber Shortt • **Managing Editor, Life & Entertainment** Dean Lisk • **Distribution Manager** Steve Malandro • **Vice-President, Sales and Business Development** Tracy Day • **Vice-President, Creative** Jeff Smith • **Vice-President, Finance** Phil Jameson • **METRO TORONTO** 625 Church St., 6th Floor Toronto ON M4Y 2G1 • **Telephone:** 416-486-4900 • **Fax:** 416-482-8097 • **Advertising:** 416-486-4900 ext. 316 • adinfotoronto@metronews.ca • **Distribution:** toronto_distribution@metronews.ca • **News tips:** toronto@metronews.ca • **Letters to the Editor:** torontoletters@metronews.ca

Are you in the mood for some two-steppin' with your toast?

Bluegrass Brunch. The Dakota Tavern offers this family-friendly event every weekend

BACKSTAGE PASS
Ian Gormely
scene@metronews.ca

Bluegrass Brunch takes place Saturdays and Sundays at the Dakota Tavern from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Every weekend morning, weary Torontonians crowd into trendy, cramped restaurants looking to cure themselves of the previous evening's festivities. They're offered variations on bacon, eggs and toast, but only at the Dakota Tavern are they guaranteed a mid-morning family dance party.

Seven years since it served up its first plate of breakfast potatoes, the Dakota's weekly Bluegrass Brunch is a west-end institution, a unique culinary and musical gem that pairs traditional breakfast fare with the rollicking sounds of bluegrass music.

"We wanted to do an event for the community and for the people with families that otherwise couldn't come down at night," says Shawn Creamer, co-owner of the basement venue.

Bars, particularly ones with loud music blaring into the wee hours of the morning, can often find themselves at odds with the people that live in the neighbourhood. "We wanted to show the rest of the community that this wasn't a big bad scary place."

Creamer and his wife got the idea for the brunch after attending the House of Blues' gospel brunch in Chicago. Liking what they saw, heard, and tasted, they brought the concept to Toronto, adapting the event to the Dakota's unique aesthetic and warm ambiance.

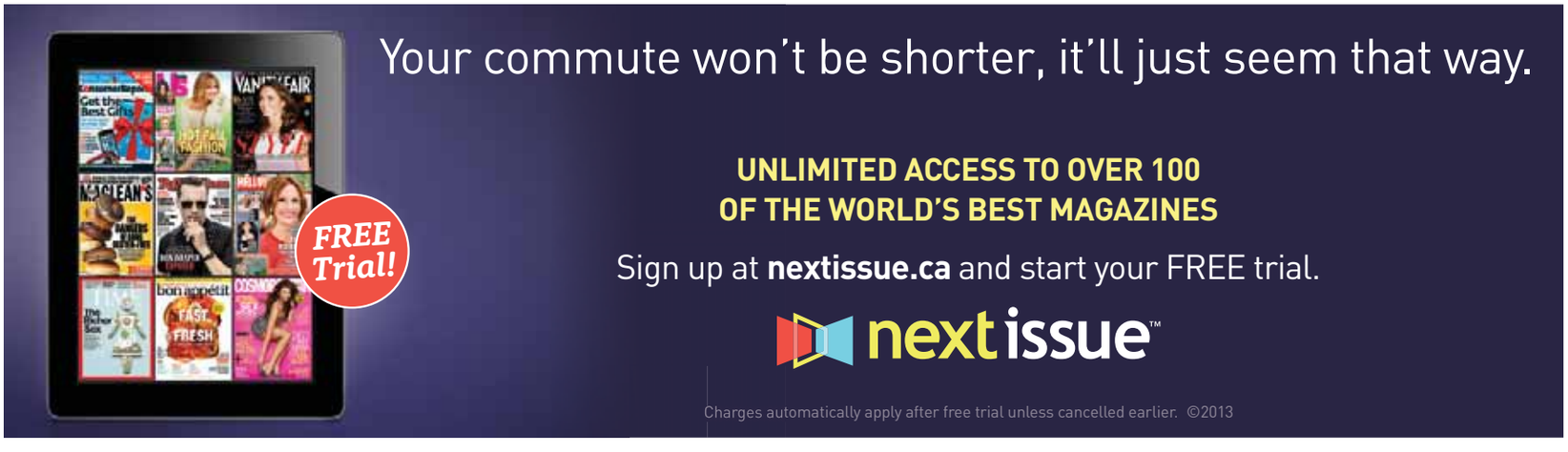
Food is served family style, with large plates of scrambled eggs, sausages and pancakes brought to your table to encourage a sense of sharing and community amongst friends and strangers.

Since opening in 2006, the Dakota has become ground zero for Toronto's fertile roots and country scene. Creamer is a musician himself and member of local alt-country favs the Beauties. He chose bluegrass, a type of Appalachian folk music, to soundtrack the meal because "it makes everyone super happy."

"It gets little kids out on the dance floor. We want to see families enjoying themselves."

Music makes the brunch

Bluegrass brunch would be nothing without musicians who provide each week's soundtrack. Bandleaders Rob Fenton, who plays dobro, and fiddler John Showman switch off weekends at the Dakota, each with a rotating cast of local talent in tow. Creamer says these musicians, many of whom play in other bands in the city, are some of the best bluegrass musicians in North America. "These guys are crazy," he jokes, noting members will play three sets in a day, then go home to practice. "I don't know any other group of musicians that have this kind of work ethic. They love playing wherever they can."


Your commute won't be shorter, it'll just seem that way.
UNLIMITED ACCESS TO OVER 100
OF THE WORLD'S BEST MAGAZINES
Sign up at nextissue.ca and start your FREE trial.
FREE Trial!
nextissue™
Charges automatically apply after free trial unless cancelled earlier. ©2013

Think on your feet to avoid being Chopped

New on Food Network Canada. Contestants will be given four ingredients and asked to make a dish — and the results will be exciting

The dish writer Emily Richardson created with Ania Krysa. CONTRIBUTED

Chopped Canada host Dean McDermott with judges, from left, Vikram Vij, Lynn Crawford and Chuck Hughes. CONTRIBUTED

EMILY RICHARDSON
scene@metronews.ca

What does it take to not get chopped? Skill, creativity, patience and really quick thinking. I was invited to be part of a media challenge that welcomed Chopped Canada to Food Network Canada. The show debuts Thursday on the network.

For those of you that don't know the show, here's the plot: four competitors have 20 minutes to create three spur-of-the-moment dishes from ingredients in a mystery basket.

So in true Chopped style, we were handed the mystery basket but organizers cut us some slack — we had 30 minutes to create our dishes, and we got a partner. I was happy to be partnered with Ania Krysa, web producer for Food Network Canada. So did we have an advantage compared to the contestants on Chopped Canada? Yes we certainly did — we could bounce ideas off each other and the two of us could gather ingredients and other equipment we needed.

Host Dean McDermott started the morning by introducing the show's judges: Lynn Crawford, Chuck Hughes, Roger Mooking, Susur Lee, Michael Smith, Vikram Vij, John Higgins and Anne Yarymowich. Then he explained the rules of engagement. On his command, Ania and I opened our basket and pulled out the ingredients one by one — yikes! — beef tenderloin, Canadian cheddar cheese, fresh grapefruit and wait for it... candy sprinkles.

That's the twist that you can expect on the show: something out of the ordinary to throw off contestants. For Ania and me? Heck — grapefruit and sprinkles got our adrenaline pumping and our brains racing with ideas.

We had a few minutes before officially starting to consider our plan of attack. A salad? Good idea, but how do we incorporate sprinkles? Flavour? What goes well with grapefruit and beef and candy sprinkles? How could we bring it all together?

As Dean said "time starts now," we flew into action, running to the fridge to get greens, the pantry to get dry spices and other goodies. While Ania was creating an Indian-inspired spice crust that included the candy sprinkles, I began working on the grapefruit, using some rind for the crust as well as reserving the juices for a vinaigrette that we would surely need. How would we use that cheese? Ha! Cheese tuiles topped with candy sprinkles.

Would we be able to get seven identical dishes, comprising all our basket ingredients, finished and plated? These are key points the judges consider when they go over your dishes.

And how important is taste? It's huge, so we were tasting everything along the way to make sure it was seasoned and balanced. We didn't want too much of something and not enough of something else.

We were lucky because there were two of us — I can only imagine what it would be like completing the task by myself, knowing that I'd have a chance to win $10,000.

The clock was ticking but we didn't want to cook the beef too early and overcook it.

We were up first...

Dean asked us to describe our dish. Uh oh. We looked at each other. We hadn't named our creation, so the best we could do was describe the elements on the plate and hope that the judges would be kind. "Seared spiced beef tenderloin, served with a grapefruit and greens salad and cheese tuile," we said, and held our breath. This is the time for criticism and also admiration of a dish. We were ready, but in truth, this part was more difficult than cooking the dish itself.

As the judges tasted our dish, we heard: "Well balanced, loved the beef, unique use of the cheese to make the tuiles." Wow, could it have been that good?

"It would have been nice to see it on a larger plate," Vikram Vij pointed out.

"Do you want to know what I really think of your dish?" Lynn Crawford asked. "Yes," we said in agreement. "I love it!" she laughed and smiled.

The other media teams followed with their amazing dishes. The competition was fierce, as it will be on the show. And sadly, we were chopped — but the rush and experience was more than I could ask for.

Chopped Canada debuts Thursday, Jan. 2 at 10 p.m. ET/PT on Food Network Canada.

EARN UP TO $7500!
Are you a Healthy Person between 18 and 55 years of age?
If so we want to hear from you!

Apotex is currently recruiting healthy men and women to participate in studies on Pharmaceutical products.

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.APOTEX.CA or Call: 416-741-4256
Toll Free: 1-877-APO-CLNC (1-877-276-2562)
Hours: 8:30am to 5pm Monday to Friday

- YOU WILL BE PAID upon completion of the study
- Compensation may range from $1000 to $7500 depending on the length of the study

APOTEX
ADVANCING GENERICS

HOLIDAY PROMO
20% - 90% SAVINGS
NON-SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Reveal your inner beauty
with our team of recognized experts

Breast Augmentation
Brazilian Butt Lift
Liposuction
Facial Surgery
Designer Vaginoplasty®

Injectable Fillers
Botox® Treatments
Anti-Aging Treatments
Laser Skin Rejuvenation
Silkpeel Treatments

CLINIC 360
(416) 360-7-360 clinic360.com

Chandler done with playing suits (for now)

The Wolf of Wall Street. Although Argo actor said he loved working for Scorsese, he first got into acting as a youth mostly to avoid wearing a suit

MATT PRIGGE
Metro World News in NYC

Nearly every actor onscreen in The Wolf of Wall Street gets to have debauched, hedonistic fun — except for Kyle Chandler. As FBI Agent Patrick Denham, he's the guy who spends the film trying to bust superbroker Jordan Belfort (Leonardo DiCaprio).

Not that the role was boring. Chandler says what excited him was getting to know more about government officials, specifically by talking to the real-life agent who took down Belfort. He told Chandler about the strange relationship between the agent and his mark.

"He told me what it's like to spend so much time with someone. You're interviewing him. You're putting a wire on him. You're eating lunch together. You're spending time with someone you're going to put away," Chandler explains. "He told me it was important to know he has no animosity towards the people he arrests. It's his job."

Chandler also gets a few key scenes with DiCaprio, most notably a scene where Denham visits Belfort on his yacht in Downtown Manhattan for a faux-friendly chat that gradually turns into threats through big smiles.

"That was the first scene I shot in the movie," Chandler reveals. He says he prefers not to do a lot of rehearsal before shooting. "I like going in cold then finding the material as you play it out," he says. That happened here. He says he spent a chunk of the scene staring at a piece of paper DiCaprio had placed on a table. When DiCaprio, in character, chided him, asking if he was actually going to look at him, Chandler found himself exploding on him. "That really pissed me off. I said, 'Yeah, give me a chance!' It was cool because it was part of the confrontation. But at the same time it was fun."

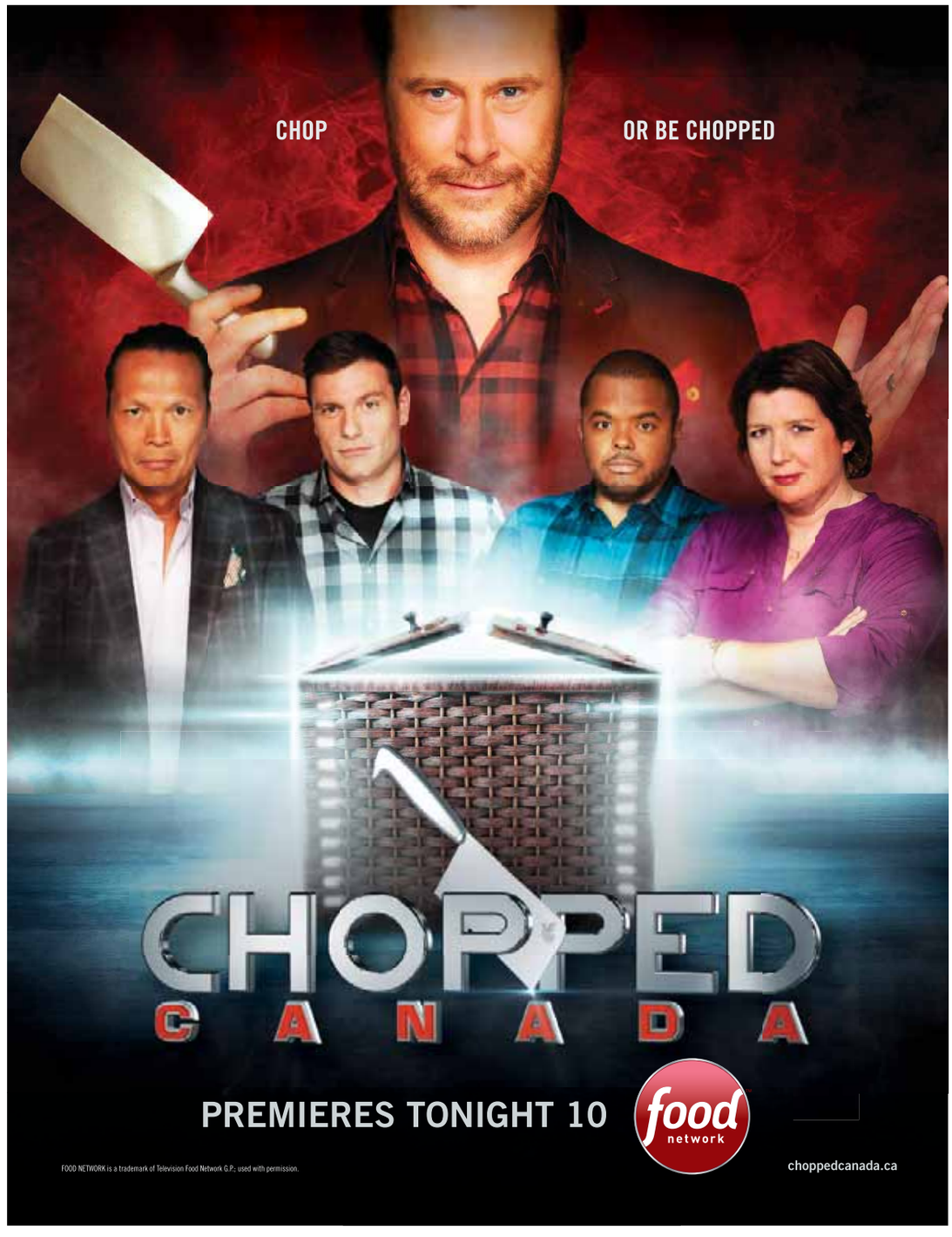
The other main attraction, of course, is working for director Martin Scorsese. You obviously don't hesitate when Scorsese asks you to audition for his latest project. But being in a Scorsese film so filled with montages means you're not always prepared for how he'll use you. Chandler recalls getting excited when, seeing the film in a private screening in Texas for only him and his wife, there came a shot where he walks into the offices of Belfort's firm, dozens of agents behind him, finally ready to bust.

"When I was watching it and that song comes up and I come walking through that door, I wanted to go find Martin Scorsese and kiss him right on the mouth. Man, what a shot that is," he gushes. "If I could get that on a loop and play it as I'm brushing my teeth, I'm set."

This is far from the first time Chandler has played an authority figure, from his long stint as the football coach on Friday Night Lights to a single father cop in Super 8 to suits in Argo, Zero Dark Thirty and now this. How did he come to play these roles?

"Man, I haven't figured that out. That people want to hire my as a source of authority just boggles my mind," he replies. He says this will probably be the last suit he plays for awhile, and not only for fear of being pigeonholed. "I remember when I was in college my buddy and I wanted to be actors because we didn't want to ever have to wear a suit and tie. That's all I do now. What an idiot I am."

Kyle Chandler plays an FBI agent in The Wolf of Wall Street. GETTY IMAGE



$259m

Bon Jovi has the year's highest grossing tour

Bon Jovi not only has the year's top tour, but the rock band has achieved a career high. The New Jersey-based act's worldwide tour grossed $259.5 million this year, topping Pollstar's annual top 20 list and setting a record for the band itself. Beyoncé is second with $188.6 million. She ended her tour last week in Brooklyn, N.Y. Pink, Justin Bieber, and Bruce Springsteen round out the top five. The global concert business scored a record year with the top 20 tours, earning $2.43 billion in primary ticket sales. It generated $1.96 billion last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

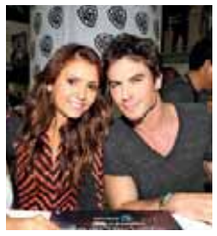
Top 10 celebrity splits of 2013

It was a messy year in the world of celebrity love lives. Both longtime couples and quick-moving flames found themselves burning out. Some parted ways on good terms (at least in the media), others left a wake of gossip and resentment in their paths, and a few even found their way back to each other.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth

Jennifer Lawrence and Nicholas Hoult



Nina Dobrev and Ian Somerhalder

Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom

Taylor Swift and Harry Styles

Kris Jenner and Bruce Jenner

Katy Perry and John Mayer

Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones

Marc Jacobs and Harry Louis

Ryan Seacrest and Julianne Hough

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Audio sampled on Beyoncé single stirring up controversy

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Beyoncé's new single, XO, features audio from the day of the 1986 Challenger disaster. At the beginning of the song, NASA spokesman Steve Nesbitt can be heard saying, "Flight controllers here looking very carefully at the situation. Obviously a major malfunction."

It's an excerpt from a statement he made to reporters as debris from the Challenger rained from the sky. The Challenger exploded on Jan. 28, 1986, and killed all seven astronauts onboard.

"We were disappointed to learn that an audio clip from the day we lost our heroic Challenger crew was used in the song XO," June Scobee Rodgers, widow of Shuttle Commander Dick Scobee, told ABC News. "The moment included in this song is an emotionally difficult one for the Challenger families, colleagues and friends."

Beyoncé stopped short of offering an apology, but she did issue a statement explaining the rationale behind the sample. "My heart goes out to the families of those lost in the Challenger disaster. The song XO was recorded with the sincerest intention to help heal those who have lost loved ones and to remind us that unexpected things happen, so love and appreciate every minute that you have with those who mean the most to you."

Goodbye Uncle Phil

Fresh Prince actor James Avery dies at 65

James Avery, the bulky character actor who laid down the law as the Honorable Philip Banks in The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air, has died.

Avery's publicist, Cynthia Snyder, told The Associated Press that Avery died Tuesday. She did not immediately know the cause of death or where he died. Avery played Will Smith's uncle on the popular TV series. His movie credits included Fletch, 8 Million Ways to Die and The Prince of Egypt. METRO

IT'S SHOWTIME!
SATURDAY, JANUARY 4 & SUNDAY, JANUARY 5
2 FREE MOVIE TICKETS!
SPEND $75 OR MORE AND RECEIVE 2 FREE CINEPLEX ADMIT ONES*.
Visit shoppersdrugmart.ca or the store nearest you for details.
*Some conditions may apply. See cashier for details.
Offer valid Saturday, January 4 and Sunday, January 5, 2014.
UP TO $25 VALUE

SHOPPERS DRUG MART

A brighter 2014 in store for shoppers

Colour me good. Bold graphics, pale pastels set to add pop to your closet in 2014

Whether you're seeking to make a minor ripple or sizable splash in your wardrobe in 2014, prognosticators are hoping to help make the new year a stylish one with predictions of noteworthy new looks in fashion. Lisa Tant, vice-president, fashion editor at Holt Renfrew, shars her views on notable trends and suggestions on how to incorporate the changes within your apparel and accessories.

Pale hues and bold blooms

When it comes to injecting a little extra colour into the wardrobe, Tant suggested opting for a softer touch in the form of a pretty pastel.

"We saw pale pink, pale blue, mint green," she said. "It sounds kind of girly and you might think that sounds too sweetie pie for a lot of women. But it's being cut in really simple shapes like a pale blue

trench coat or a pale pink motorcycle jacket, a mint green pencil skirt. It's really kind of cool colours and classic pieces."

For those keen to crank the colour or longing for a bolder statement in the form of pattern, blooms are back in a big way. Tant pointed to emergence of large, bright, bold florals and tropical patterns for the coming year.

Feeling fringe

Expect to see a little something extra in the form of embellishments on apparel and accessories for the new year. The fringe is flowing and in abundance as a stylish addition to many key pieces. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hydrating hair oils for winter

Don't underestimate the powers of frigid temperatures, biting winds and central heating to damage your hair

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

So many of us assume that the only time our locks deserve a little TLC — a smother of coconut oil, a drop of shea butter — is once they've been frazzled by the burning sun and dipped in sea salt. Once summer is over, you switch to richer conditioner, slip on a beanie and voilà. But that won't be enough.

Frigid temperatures outdoors, central heating indoors and biting winds can do just as much damage to your hair as 12-day beach vacay. To help, we've rounded up oils formulated with the most nourishing ingredients including avocado, olive or argan to oil, to keep your hair hydrated over winter — despite the blasting heat of the hairdryer.

Moroccanoil
Treatment Light
$50

Kiehl's
Olive and avocado leave-in cream
$30

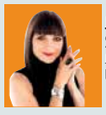
Sisley
Extract for Hair and Scalp
$139

L'Oreal
Professional Mythic Oil
$23

Ojon
Rare Blend Oil Moisture Therapy
$49

Wella
SP Luxe Oil
$33

Twitter



JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Happy day: Perfect way to say goodbye to 2013+hello to 2014!!! X-country skiing at the farm with my family. #bliss

Me in my farmhouse kitchen with my #OrderofCanada pin! Sweetest accessory ever...

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Skye

Age: 25

Occupation: Fashion stylist

What she's wearing
Zara coat and scarf, Rebecca Minkoff bag, 3.1 Phillip Lim boots.

Her inspiration
"London street style, i-D magazine, '90s minimalism, Hanne Gaby Odiele: off duty."

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT – AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM – AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION TOO!

Design darlings of 2013

Style gurus Steven Sabados and Chris Hyndman take a look back at the top home-decor trends of the past year, and find the standout themes included artful lighting, lived-in linen, warm gold and brass accents, and the rustic look of unfinished wood. For more chic decor ideas, watch Steven & Chris weekdays at 2 p.m. on CBC.

Emerald Green

Emerald green, Pantone's 2013 colour of the year, was eagerly and enthusiastically embraced by designers and consumers. From throw cushions to sofas and wall treatments, emerald green was undoubtedly last year's "it" colour. Emerald green is vibrant, radiant and lush and it's not surprising that its popularity also sparked a renewed interest in all things glam.

Gold and brass

2013 was the year many vintage favourites experienced a major comeback. Gold and brass, reminiscent of decades past, became a leading trend and surfaced anywhere from hardware finishes to decor accessories.

Gold flatware appeared on tabletops. Chrome no longer dominated kitchen and bathroom fixtures as gold and brass taps offered a warm metallic glow in the room. Brass and gold decor accents became increasingly sought after last year as the idea of mixing metallics grew in popularity.

You don't need to discard your existing finishes to incorporate brass and gold into your home decor, and that's a key factor in the success of this design trend.

Natural wood

Natural wood was the material of choice for many in 2013. Raw wood tables with no varnish or treatments went from being showroom darlings to standard household decor.

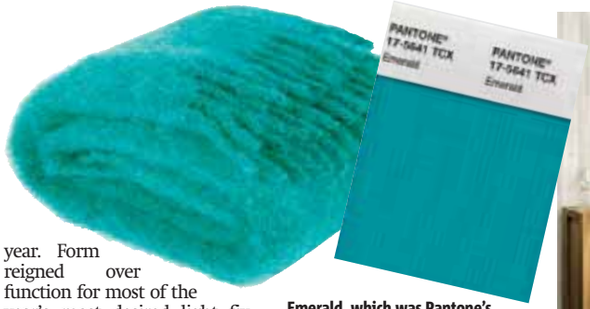
The versatility and durability of raw wood coupled with its natural patina over time make it a sensible and stylish solution for family living. The rustic look of natural unfinished wood has also been juxtaposed with cooler elements like chrome and glass in more formal areas of the home.

Lighting as art

Lighting as a form of artwork became a popular concept last year. Form reigned over function for most of the year's most desired light fixtures. In 2013, lighting made a statement in the room instead of just lighting it up. Over-scale light fixtures were also a big part of this trend. Chandeliers, pendants, sconces, table lamps and floor lamps have become key extensions of a room's style and personality.

The lived-in look

In 2013, comfort was king with a big focus on natural fibres such as linen. The relaxed lived-in look was seen in many upholstered decor pieces such as casual wingback chairs and slipcovered sofas. Even drapery moved away from traditional silk textiles to the more casual elegance of linen. The driving force of this trend is lifestyle and the move away from traditional formal choices to more liveable no-fuss options.



Emerald, which was Pantone's 2013 colour of the year, showed up in a wide range of decor products including this Mohair Fringe Throw, $199, from zarahome.com.

Natural wood was the material of choice for many in 2013, say Steven and Chris. Crate and Barrel's Big Sur Natural collection, which includes dining tables, benches and a sideboard, has a polished wax finish and emphasizes the innate character of the wood. For more details, see crateandbarrel.com.

COURTESY CRATEANDBARREL.COM

Kick off your healthy eating resolutions with salmon

Ingredients

Citrus marinade

- 1/2 cup (125 ml) orange juice
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) lime zest
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) lemon zest
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fresh ginger, chopped
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) soy sauce
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) honey
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 green onions, chopped
- Freshly ground pepper
- 8 salmon fillets, 5 oz (140 g) each
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) honey
- 6 oz (180 g) Le Noble cheese, cut into 8 slices
- 1 cup (250 ml) snow pea or sunflower shoots
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) fresh cilantro

1. Mix all marinade ingredients and marinate salmon 1 hour.

2. Preheat oven to 425 F (220 C).

3. Remove salmon from marinade and pour into a small saucepan. Place salmon on a parchment-lined baking sheet and cook in the oven for 12–15 minutes or until desired doneness.

4. Meanwhile, bring marinade to a boil, simmer for 5 minutes and remove from heat. Add honey and reserve.

5. Place a slice of cheese on each plate, lay hot salmon over cheese and garnish with shoots and cilantro.

DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA (ALLYOUNEEDISCHEESE.CA/GRANDPRIX

Asian-Baked Salmon with Le Noble Cheese

This recipe serves eight. DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

Luxury Condominium Rentals
BRAND NEW Tridel Built Suites
OPEN HOUSE

HULLMARK CENTRE
Direct Subway Access
Tue & Thrs 4-7pm Sat 2-4pm
2 Anndale Dr
Yonge and Sheppard

THREE HUNDRED
FRONT STREET WEST
In the heart of Downtown
Wed 5 - 7pm Sat 2-4pm
20 John St
Front and John

DEL® CONDOMINIUM RENTALS

Award Winning Communities | Peace of Mind
delrentals.com

Leafs centre Tyler Bozak scores the shootout winner on Red Wings goalie Jimmy Howard at the NHL Winter Classic on Wednesday in Ann Arbor, Mich. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Red Wings captain Henrik Zetterberg and Maple Leafs goalie Jonathan Bernier bundled up for Wednesday's big game along with 105,491 hockey fans. GREGORY SHAMUS, JAMIE SABAU/GETTY IMAGES

4 SPORTS

Bozak the boss of the Big House

Cool competition.
Leafs beat Red Wings in shootout at chilly, snowy Winter Classic

Winter Classic

3	2
Maple Leafs	Red Wings

Mike Babcock wasn't on the ice at Michigan Stadium, so seven minutes into the Winter Classic the Detroit Red Wings' coach asked star Pavel Datsyuk how he thought things were going.

"He said, 'Well, we're being too careful with the puck,'" Babcock said. "But he said, 'We got to be because you're scared to turn it over, there's so much snow."

Snow built up throughout the frigid game, which the Toronto Maple Leafs won 3-2 in a shootout to jump ahead of the Red Wings in the standings. The conditions didn't make for the prettiest game, but the spectacle of a capacity crowd of 105,491 in Ann Arbor set a picturesque scene.

"I don't know if you would call it a gem from a pace standpoint," Leafs coach Randy Carlyle said. "The weather definitely changed the way it was presented with the snow coming down, and it brought back a lot of memories from a childhood of playing outside."

Tyler Bozak scored the shootout winner in an event that set the NHL attendance record and might have been enough to make the Guinness Book of World Records. It was -11 C at puck drop. James van Riemsdyk and Bozak scored for Toronto and Daniel Alfredsson and Justin Abdelkader had markers for Detroit.

"The NHL did a good job keeping the ice as clean as possible," said Leafs captain Dion Phaneuf. "It's an experience. It's an outdoor game — in the middle of winter you're going to have snow." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Old time atmosphere

"To me, today was a home run for hockey."
Red Wings coach Mike Babcock

John-Michael Liles plays soccer to warm up on Wednesday at Michigan Stadium. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Trade. Buds swap blue-liners with Canes

Tim Gleason figures to be a better fit for Randy Carlyle's system than John-Michael Liles, so the Toronto Maple Leafs made the trade to upgrade their blue-line.

The Leafs got Gleason from the Carolina Hurricanes in exchange for Liles and prospect Dennis Robertson.

"With Gleason, we feel that he can come back into a hockey environment where we can support him with the style of play that I think suits his style," Carlyle said. "We want him to be a guy that can come back in and move the puck. He's a big man. We just want him to make a contribution."

The Leafs won't ask the 30-year-old Gleason, who has just one assist and no goals in 17 games this season, to contribute on the power play or on offence much, in general. He has two more seasons at a cap hit of $4 million US left on his deal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. Olympic team

'Full-circle' moment in Michigan

Before Phil Kessel and James van Riemsdyk were top-five NHL draft picks, they were kids heading off to the U.S. National Team Development program.

Kessel left Madison, Wis., in 2003, and van Riemsdyk left Middletown, N.J., to make the trip to Ann Arbor. It wasn't easy.

"You're in your comfort zone. You're coming out here and there's no promises as far as what can happen," van Riemsdyk said. "For me it was almost the start of my journey."

Kessel and van Riemsdyk excelled there and eventually developed into stars with the Maple Leafs. On Wednesday they were named to the U.S. team heading to the Sochi Olympics.

"Obviously it's an honour," Kessel said Tuesday. "Whenever you get a chance to represent your country it's a big deal."

That the announcement happened at Michigan Stadium, down the street from where Kessel and van Riemsdyk grew into men on the ice, made it special.

"It's kind of crazy how it comes full circle," van Riemsdyk said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

World juniors. Canada hopes to avoid Swiss miss

Brent Sutter THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brent Sutter seemed to be in a nasty mood at practice the morning after Canada's biggest win so far at the world junior hockey championship.

The veteran coach was barking orders and slamming his stick at missed plays on Wednesday, as if his team had lost the night before instead of pulling out a 3-2 victory over the defending champion United States to take first place in its preliminary-round group.

But the shouting had a tactical side.

He didn't want his team feeling too good about themselves heading into the single-game knockout part of the tournament.

Canada plays its quarter-final on Thursday against the Swiss, who finished fourth in the other group but who have shown they can pull off upsets against teams that take them lightly.

On paper, it's a game Canada should win handily, but that may be what Finland thought when they lost to the Swiss in a shootout in their final round-robin game.

Canada beat the Swiss 4-1 in an exhibition game Dec. 23, profiting from five power plays to build a 2-0 first-period lead.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Eyes on Sochi

Stamkos on fast track from broken leg to Olympics

Steven Stamkos continued to skate towards his Olympic dream, hoping that he can recover from a broken leg in time for the Sochi Games. The Canadian sniper skated in Vancouver Wednesday after his Tampa Bay Lightning squad held a morning practice. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Michael Schumacher

F1 legend still in critical condition

Formula One great Michael Schumacher's condition was stable but still critical overnight as he remained unconscious following a brain injury suffered in a skiing accident, his manager said Wednesday.

Schumacher has undergone two brain operations and remains in a medically induced coma.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Upstart Raptors feast on beast of the East

NBA. Toronto knocks off conference-leading Indiana to improve record to .500

If the league-leading Indiana Pacers provided the perfect gauge for just how much the Toronto Raptors have improved, the answer was: plenty.

DeMar DeRozan poured in 26 points to lead the red-hot Raptors to a resounding 95-82 win over Indiana on Wednesday, handing the Pacers just their sixth loss of the season.

The Raptors' victory was their fourth in a row and eighth in their last 10 outings. It also snapped Indiana's five-game winning streak.

Terrence Ross added 18 for Toronto (15-15), while Kyle Lowry had a game-high 14 assists to go with 13 points, and Jonas Valanciunas scored 13 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Roy Hibbert scored 16 for the Pacers (25-6) before fouling out with 3:25 to go, while Paul George added 12 and Danny Granger finished with 11.

The Raptors' confidence was soaring going into Wednesday's game, and a night earlier, the Raptors were down by five heading into the fourth at Chicago before rallying for an 85-79 victory over the Bulls.

They'd shown more fight in the past couple of weeks than in recent memory, and were making a habit of fourth-quarter comebacks.

But they didn't need one Wednesday.

The Raptors led by as much as nine points against a Pacers team that came into the game with a 9-0 record against Atlantic Division opponents, and fought back from a Pacers rally to lead 66-63 going into the fourth quarter.

They found another gear down the stretch. Back-to-back buckets by DeRozan, then a steal by Ross that turned into a Lowry basket with 2:54 to play, had the crowd on its feet screaming and put Toronto up by 11.

The thrilled Air Canada Centre crowd of 18,271 stood and cheered the Raptors off the floor after the final buzzer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On Wednesday

Raptors	Pacers
95	82

The Pacers' Danny Granger reaches over the back of Raptor Terrence Ross in an attempt to get the ball at the Air Canada Centre on Wednesday night.
RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Thursday, January 2, 2014

Service Directory

To advertise contact Ian March at 416-443-4388

PSYCHIC

THE MOST POWERFUL SPIRITUALIST FROM INDIA
Pandit: RAMJI
Specialist in All kinds of Astrology
SOLUTIONS & SUGGESTIONS ON: Finance, Love, Husband-Wife, Business, Work, Depression, Kids, Enemy, Health, Job, Divorce Etc
100% REMOVAL OF BLACK MAGIC, EVIL SPIRITS OF ALL RELIGIONS BY PERFORMING SPECIAL KALI MAATA PRAYERS
647-962-7346, 647-852-2996
679 Markham Road, Scarborough, Markham & Lawrence

Meet #1 World Famous Astrologer & Psychic
1931 Weston Rd., Toronto (Weston Rd & Lawrence W)
Next to Pizza-Pizza, Inside Cash-Inn
Good News to People of Toronto
Pandit: Mahendra Sharma
Suggestions & Solutions on:
Family * Job * Business * Children
Court * Enemy * Health * Love * Property
Depression * Sickness * Jealousy * Sexual
Removes Black Magic, Jadoo, Voodoo, Obeau & Gives 100% Immediate Protection
647-963-4739 100% Guaranteed Results

Sri Hanuman Astrology Center
Pandit: SHIVRAJ
Indian Astrologer
Solves Problems related to Children, Family, Business, Job, Money, Court, Education, Depression Etc.
Master Pandit Removes Black Magic, Voodoo & Gives 100% Protection
DON'T MISS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY
416-464-7307
253 Queen ST E, #5,BRAMPTON

Psychic Mr. MAHA
Indian Psychic
Helps Bring Back Loved ones. Solves all Problems like Job, Family, Health, Marriage, Kids Court, Business,Husband-Wife Depression etc. 100% GUARANTEE
Removes Black Magic, Voodoo,Bad Curse, Buttu, Evil Eyes & Gives 100% Protection
647-710-5566
(Kennedy & Lawrence)

LEGAL

DIVORCE in Simple Weeks
Child Support
Pay less or Get More*
416-880-4600
www.quickform.ca
* By Lawyer, conditions apply

@metrotoronto
metro

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
With Mars, your ruling planet, moving through your opposite sign of Libra you will be very impatient over the next 24 hours, especially with people who think slowly. Compared to you, that's just about everyone.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Cosmic activity in the work and well being area of your chart warns you must be careful not to overdo it today. You may have a thousand and one things to do but you won't get them all done at once.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Don't let others' doubts stop you from pushing ahead with a plan you know has the potential to make you both happy and successful.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Try to give loved ones more freedom today and tomorrow. It's not enough just to say that you trust them — show it too. Besides, the more you try to control others, the more you encourage them to break away.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Your confidence may sink today but it's a passing phase, so don't worry about it. Most likely you are the only one who will notice anyway. A Leo who lacks confidence still looks and sounds like a winner.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The sooner you stop worrying about your money situation, the sooner it will sort itself out. The more you torment yourself about something the more power you give it.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Mars in your sign makes you more aggressive than usual, so be careful when dealing with people one-to-one. You may not realize how intimidating you seem, but others notice. Treat everyone with respect.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
There is no point feeling sorry for yourself, not even if your number one plan seems to have hit a brick wall. If fate in its wisdom wants you to stop for a while or try a different course, just take it in your stride.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Others may say you are aiming too high but you know that you have to aim high to increase your chances of hitting a worthwhile target.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Mars is currently moving through the career area of your chart, which means that people who see you as a rival will do whatever they can to disrupt your climb to the top. They won't succeed, of course.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Take care not to say too much when talking to people you are not sure you can trust. You like to chat, it's part of your nature, but if you say too much you could undermine your position.

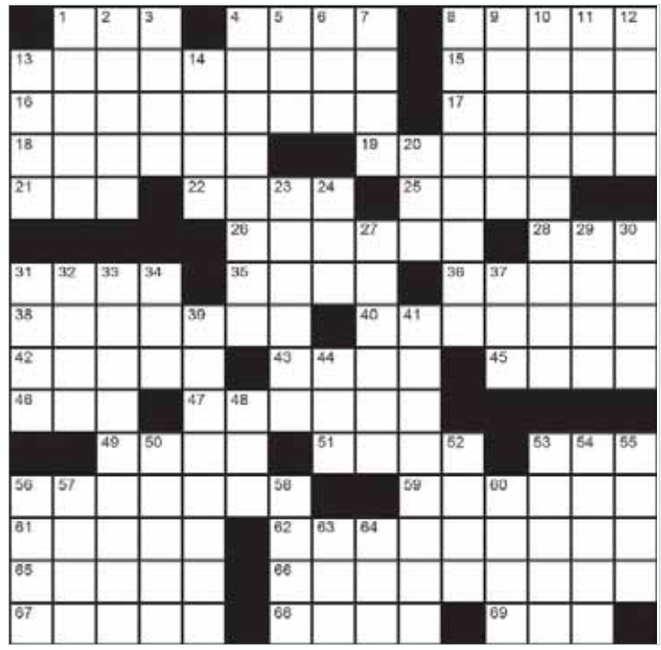
♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You know may believe one thing but if your instincts tell you a different story, it is your instincts you must trust. There is such a thing as herd mentality and there's a lot of it.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Nero's 201
4. Parisian 'pea'
8. Type sizes
13. Canadian comic legend: 2 wds.
15. Judy Garland's daughter Ms. Luft
16. Theory of __
17. Eel, in sushi bars
18. Leave
19. Inhabitant
21. Magazine edition [abbr.]
22. Celeb's to-an-event ride
25. Ms. Gray of tunes
26. Sewing machine brand
28. Address book abbr.
31. Pro __ (In proportion)
35. __ __ off (What light switches could be at any given time)
36. County in Ireland
38. Component
40. The Band song that goes "Boards on the window / Mail by the door..."
42. Famous violin, commonly
43. Organic compound
45. Li'l instruments
46. Rocky hill
47. Legendary lady of Coventry
49. Actor/rapper, __-_
51. Door openers
53. Curve
56. T.O.'s world-renowned free-standing structure: 2 wds.
59. Sporty position
61. Q. "Is '__' _ 1991 Dustin Hoffman movie?" A. "Yes."
62. Hit by Montreal band Bran Van 3000 featuring the singing of Curtis Mayfield
65. Ms. Lavigne
66. Sports: Ottawa Senators founder, Bruce __
67. Actress Salma
68. Gulf leader [var. sp.]
69. 'Count' suffix

Down
1. Inlets
2. Dices
3. Bran Van 3000's "Drinking __ _.._"
4. Jim __, Canadian tycoon whose holdings include the Guinness World Records books
5. Clandestine maritime org.
6. Oath-taker's words
7. Music's *N__
8. Ancient Greek biographer of Parallel Lives
9. Ancient column style
10. Chilliwack song: 2 wds.
11. Brad Pitt's leading lady, for short
12. 1940s baseball pitcher Johnny
13. Knight in George Lucas' world
14. Ringlet
20. "_ __ Mine" by The Beatles
23. Coined
24. Artist Yoko
27. Furrow
29. Lake __
30. Pasturelands
31. Relaxation
32. Choir voice
33. Nunavut, for one
34. Music honour, e.g.
37. Currency in Romania
39. Out-in-the-open-air attraction at #56-Across
41. Theatrical offering attendee
44. 'Neat' suffix
48. 'Capri' suffix
50. American journalist Ms. Roberts
52. __-chef
53. Canadian shoe stores
54. Nothings: French
55. Give up
56. Nuu-__-nulth (People of the Pacific Coast of Vancouver Island)
57. Explosive star
58. "Pearl Harbor" (2001) role, Capt. __ McCawley
60. Poker stake
63. Actor Alastair
64. Three

Tuesday's Crossword

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	2	5		1	7	3		
	3				9			8
			4	3				
		6				4	5	
			3		1			
	5	9				7		
				4	2			
1			9				2	
		4	1	7		9	6	

Tuesday's Sudoku

2	7	6	3	1	4	8	9	5
3	5	8	9	6	2	1	4	7
9	1	4	7	8	5	6	2	3
4	9	2	6	7	3	5	1	8
6	3	1	4	5	8	2	7	9
5	8	7	2	9	1	3	6	4
8	2	5	1	4	9	7	3	6
1	6	9	5	3	7	4	8	2
7	4	3	8	2	6	9	5	1

Today
-16°/-23°
Flurries
60%

Friday
-15°/-16°
Sunny

Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.
Check your local listings for details.
The Weather Network | HD

TWN incorporates MSC data

The power of education makes for more happily ever afters.

Soft Toys for Education is back. For any soft toy or children's book purchased at IKEA between October 27 and January 4, the IKEA Foundation will donate $1 to Save the Children and UNICEF so that more children can go to school.

unicef
Save the Children

IKEA

© Inter IKEA System B.V. 2013.

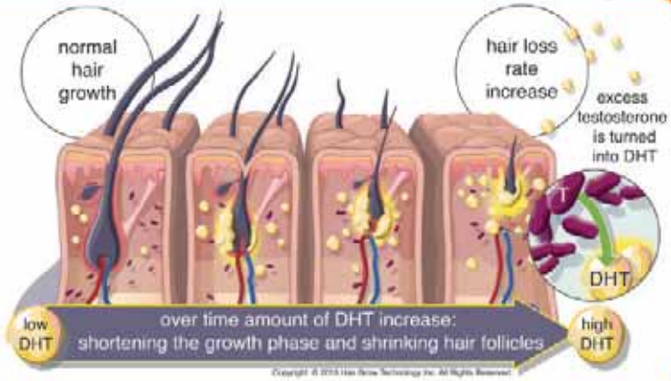
STOP HAIR LOSS

#1 SELLING IN CANADA

for MEN and for WOMEN

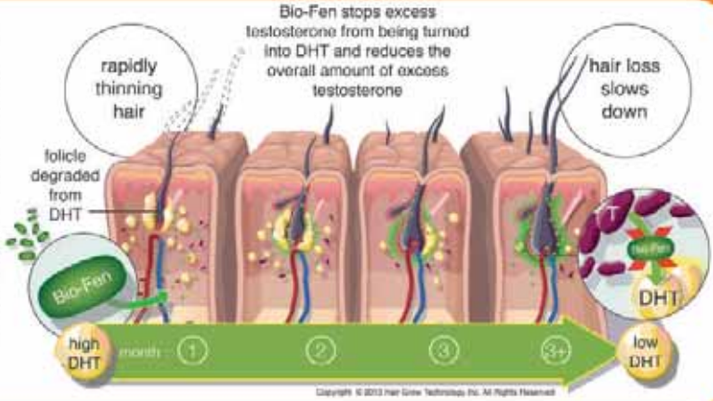
What Causes Hair Loss?

Hair loss is caused by multiple factors; health, medication, diet, stress, illness and hereditary genetics. One major reason is hereditary genetics which determine our potential hair loss condition. Some people see hair loss in their 20's, while others see little hair loss over their lifetime. An enzyme called 5-alpha reductase converts testosterone into dihydrotestosterone (DHT), which inhibits hair production and degrade the follicles over time. This condition is known as androgenic alopecia (AGA), also called male and female pattern baldness. As DHT attack the hair follicles it will lead to thinner and more fragile hair as you age.


normal hair growth
hair loss rate increase
excess testosterone is turned into DHT
DHT
low DHT
over time amount of DHT increase:
shortening the growth phase and shrinking hair follicles
high DHT

How does Bio-Fen® PLUS work?

The fenugreek seed extract in both formulas reduces excess blood lipid levels. Fenugreek contains an active plant sterol, which has been shown to inhibit 5-alpha-reductase activity – the enzyme responsible for converting excess testosterone to *DHT* (which is the primary molecule that causes hair loss). The SDG from flax lignans in both formulas also decreases excess cholesterol - the building block of testosterone. Based on new research on the rate of metabolism of SDG in flax lignans (8-12 hours on average).



How long must I use Bio-Fen® Plus?

Bio-Fen® Plus for Men capsules are usually effective at stopping hair loss within the first two months. However, since healthy hair grows only about 1 cm each month, it may take up to three months before you notice that hair growth is increased or the rate of hair loss is decreased. Anyone experiencing new growth should see it within four months. Once you stop completely your hair growth pattern will slowly go back to the point where you started.

See our website to locate your nearest store that carries *Bio-Fen® Plus.*

www.biofen.com • 1-866-424-7745

Available at Health Food Stores, Supplement Stores & Independent Pharmacies

Bio-Fen® Plus for Men will also help to:

- ***Relieve the urologic symptoms associated with mild to moderate benign prostatic hyperplasia - BPH*** *(e.g. weak urine flow, incomplete voiding, frequent daytime and night time urination).*
- ***Reduce elevated blood lipid levels / hyperlipidemia.***

Bio-Fen® Plus for Women will also help to:

- ***Reduce elevated blood lipid levels/hyperlipidemia***
- ***Prevent iron deficiency.***
- ***Metabolize carbohydrates, fats and proteins.***

Save $5.00 off your purchase!

COUPON:

Each coupon is valid for one bottle of Bio-Fen® Plus for Men or Bio-Fen® Plus for Women. Valid one coupon per bottle. Coupon is void when reproduced or altered in anyway. Coupon expires on **March 31, 2014.** Retailers must submit all coupons with a copy of the receipt for reimbursement to Hair Grow Technology with 30 days after the expiration date.